

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 03806 092150Z

70

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: SPC JULY 5 DISCUSSION OF VERIFICATION

REF: A) USNATO 2566; B) STATE 109162; C) USNATO 3747

BEGIN SUMMARY: SPC JULY 5 COMPLETED CURRENT REVIEW OF IS VERIFICATION PAPER. UK REP MADE MAJOR STATEMENT IN WHICH HE SAID LONDON WOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT A SCALING DOWN OF NUMBER OF MOBILE TEAMS REQUIRED. DURING REVIEW OF PARA 31-35 ("OPEN SKIES" PROPOSAL), SPC NOTED THAT INSPECTORS WOULD FLY ABOARD HOST COUNTRY (INSPECTED COUNTRY) AIRCRAFT, WHILE MBFR WORKING GROUP STUDY CURRENTLY UNDER WAY DOES NOT EXCLUDE ADVERSARY INSPECTION (I.E. INSPECTORS FLYING ABOARD THEIR OWN AIRCRAFT). IN ORDER TO FOCUS FURTHER WG ACTIVITY ON AERIAL INSPECTION, SPC ON JULY 15 WILL CONSIDER WHETHER ADVERSARY INSPECTION IS POLITICALLY UNACCEPTABLE, IF UNACCEPTABLE, WG WOULD LIMIT ITS STUDY TO TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF HOST COUNTRY

SECRET

PAGE 02 NATO 03806 092150Z

INSPECTION. BEFORE RETURNING TO OTHER ASPECTS OF VERIFICATION, SPC WILL AWAIT RESULTS OF ANY BILATERALS BETWEEN, AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM INTERESTED COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY

1. SPC ON JULY 5 CONTINUED ITS REVIEW OF FIFTH REVISION OF IS VERIFICATION PAPER (REF A) IN LIGHT OF U.S. COMMENTS ON GERMAN AMENDMENTS (REF B). FOLLOWING IS KEYED TO PARAGRAPHS IN IS PAPER.

2. PARA 29 - FRG REP NOTED THAT U.S. IS PREPARED TO DELETE FINAL BRACKETED SENTENCE. HOWEVER, UK REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES WANTED TO RETAIN SENTENCE.

3. PARAS 30 AND 38 - KASTL (COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN) NOTED THAT U.S. STILL RESERVES ON THESE PARAGRAPHS.

4. PARAS 31-35 - CANADIAN REP DREW ATTENTION TO THESE PARAGRAPHS, WHICH CONCERN AERIAL INSPECTION. HE NOTED THAT WG WAS PRESENTLY ENGAGED IN DEVELOPING A PAPER ON TECHNICAL ASPECTS AND OPERATING ALTERNATIVES RELATED TO AERIAL INSPECTION. (SEE USNATO 2563 AND USNATO 3734) PARA 31 OF IS DRAFT, HOWEVER, SEEMS TO HAVE PREJUDGED PRINCIPAL ISSUE CURRENTLY UNDER DEBATE IN WG, NAMELY WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE ADVERSARY OR HOST COUNTRY INSPECTION, BY REACHING CONCLUSION THAT INSPECTORS WOULD FLY ABOARD AIRCRAFT BELONGING TO THE INSPECTED COUNTRY. SMITH (VICE-CHAIRMAN, MBFR WORKING GROUP) SAID THAT IF SPC WERE TO REACH A DECISION THAT ADVERSARY INSPECTION WAS POLITICALLY UNACCEPTABLE, THIS WOULD SAVE WG THE UNNECESSARY EFFORT OF STUDYING ISSUE FROM STANDPOINT OF BOTH MAJOR ALTERNATIVES. IF WG CONTINUED TO WORK ON A BROADLY FOCUSED STUDY, WHICH INVOLVED A LARGE VARIETY OF HIGHLY TECHNICAL QUESTIONS, THIS COULD TAKE A LONG TIME. UK REP ASKED WHEN THE SPC HAD DECIDED TO HOLD TO HOST COUNTRY INSPECTION, AND SUGGESTED IT HAD NEVER DONE SO. IS OFFICIAL CONFIRMED THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD NEVER DECIDED THE QUESTION. IS HAD THEREFORE INCLUDED HOST COUNTRY INSPECTION IN THIS PARAGRAPH ON THE BASIS OF SEVERAL WG ANALYSES, SEVERAL OF WHICH HAD STARTED FROM THE ASSUMPTION THAT ADVERSARY INSPECTION WAS NOT POLITICALLY TOLERABLE. IS HAD INCLUDED HOST COUNTRY INSPECTION IN VERIFICATION PAPER FOR SPC TO ACCEPT OR REJECT. NETHERLANDS REP WANTED SQUARE BRACKETS AROUND THIS SECTION PENDING SPC DECISION.

SECRET

PAGE 03 NATO 03806 092150Z

5. UK REP SAID THAT WHILE LONDON HAD FULL SYMPATHY WITH FRG'S CONCERNS RE THE POLITICAL ASPECTS OF AN OVERT INSPECTION SYSTEM AND BELIEVED THEY SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, HE EMPHASIZED THAT UK CONTINUED TO HOLD TO ITS WELL KNOWN POSITION ON THE VALUE OF OVERT VERIFICATION. DESPITE FRG ARGUMENTS, UK AUTHORITIES CONTINUED TO BE PERSUADED OF THE NECESSITY OF AN EFFECTIVE OVERT SYSTEM, INCLUDING MOBILE TEAMS. IN UK VIEW, VERIFICATION MUST BOTH DETER AND DETECT VIOLATIONS. THESE AIMS ARE ACHIEVABLE ONLY IF SOVIETS REALIZE THAT PREPARATIONS FOR WAR WILL NOT GO UNCHALLENGED BY OUR SIDE. FOR THE LATTER REASON, A VERIFICATION SYSTEM WOULD HAVE TO GO BEYOND EXCLUSIVE RELIANCE ON NTM. OPERATIONALLY, UK DOES NOT BELIEVE ALLIES CAN RELY ON NTM'S EITHER, SINCE THE ASSESSMENT IN U.S. PAPER OF 30 APRIL 1973 INDICATED THAT VIOLATIONS SO DETECTED WOULD

TAKE UP TO ONE YEAR TO CONFIRM.

6. UK DOES RECOGNIZE, HOWEVER, THAT EFFECTIVE OVERT VERIFICATION POSES CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES FOR COUNTRIES WHICH ACCEPT COMPONENTS OF THE INSPECTION SYSTEM WITHIN THEIR BORDERS. AS SUCH UK WOULD BE PREPARED TO SCALE DOWN THE NUMBER OF MOBILE TEAMS OPERATING IN THE REDUCTION AREA. ASIDE FROM SCALING DOWN THE NUMBER OF MOBILE TEAMS, THERE ARE OTHER WAYS OF REDUCING PROBLEMS FOR FRG, SUCH AS ATTACHING LIAISON OFFICERS TO THEM, NOT PERMITTING THEM TO WEAR UNIFORMS OR USE MARKED VEHICLES AND THEREBY LIMITING THEIR VISABILITY. UK REP ADDED THAT THERE MAY BE FURTHER WAYS OF REDUCING THE VISIBILITY OF MOBILE TEAMS. UK WOULD BE PREPARED TO STUDY ANY SUGGESTIONS WHICH MIGHT MAKE THE SYSTEM EFFECTIVE AS WELL AS PALATABLE TO THOSE HOST COUNTRIES WHO WILL HAVE TO LIVE WITH IT.

7. IN VIEW OF IMPORTANCE OF UK STATEMENT CHAIRMAN ASKED UK REP IF HE WOULD CIRCLUATE IT, WHICH HE AGREED TO DO (TEXT SEPTTEL).

8. PARA 8- NETHERLANDS REP RETURNED TO PARA 8. HE RECALLED THAT AT PREVIOUS SPC MEETING HE COULD NOT ACCEPT DELETION OF SECOND SENTENCE (REF C). SINCE NETHERLANDS WAS ONLY COUNTRY SUPPORTING SENTENCE, AND ALTHOUGH DUTCH STILL SUPPORTED ITS INTENT, THEY WERE NOW WILLING TO DELETE IT ON GROUNDS THAT THERE IS NO NEED TO SPELL OUT DETAILS IN IS PAPER. TURNING TO UK REP'S REMARK, HE ADDED THAT DUTCH THINKING IS ALONG LINES AS UK ON POSSIBLE SCALING DOWN OF MOBILE TEAMS. REFERRING TO LAST PARA OF CURRENT
SECRET

PAGE 04 NATO 03806 092150Z

WG DRAFT ON AERIAL INSPECTION, HE NOTED THAT IF AERIAL INSPECTION WAS ADOPTED, THIS WOULD INFLUENCE THE NUMBER OF GROUND INSPECTION TEAMS REQUIRED.

9. KASTL DID NOT THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO RETURN TO IS VERIFICATION PAPER IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE THOUGHT THERE WAS PROBABLY A NEED FOR SOME BILATERALS BETWEEN THOSE COUNTRIES WITH DIRECT INTERESTS INVOLVED. SPC SHOULD THEREFORE RETURN TO IS PAPER ONLY AFTER SOME "ENCOURAGEMENT" FROM THEM HAD BEEN REGISTERED. MEANWHILE, SPC SHOULD RETURN TO OPEN SKIES QUESTION AT ITS MEETING ON MONDAY, JULY 15 TO DETERMINE WHETHER WG SHOULD STOP WORK ON ADVERSARY INSPECTION. WG WILL TAKE NO FURTHER ACTION ON ITS DRAFT UNTIL THIS DECISION REACHED.

10. AT REQUEST OF SEVERAL DELS, CHAIRMAN AGREED TO PUT OUT CORRIGENDUM TO CURRENT IS PAPER INDICATING PROGRESS MADE IN DELETION OF BRACKETS, TOGETHER WITH WHERE BRACKETS CONTINUED TO REMAIN.

11. COMMENT: UK REP'S STATEMENT REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT (PERHAPS INEVITABLE) SHIFT IN UK THINKING ON NUMBER OF MOBILE TEAMS REQUIRED. UK REP DID NOT SPECIFY WHAT LONDON WOULD AGREE TO ACCEPT IN TERMS OF A SPECIFIC NUMBER. IT IS CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT THEY ARE NOW INCLINED TO MOVE TOWARD THE ORIGINAL U.S. OCTOBER 5

PROPOSAL OF APPROXIMATELY 25 TEAMS. NEW UK SHIFT TOWARD U.S.
POSITION MIGHT CONCEIVABLY ALSO IMPROVE POSSIBILITIES FOR
COMPROMISE WITH FRG.

12. WHILE WE UNDERSTAND WASHINGTON'S RELUCTANCE TO SPEAK TO
AERIAL INSPECTION QUESTION BEFORE FULL USG REVIEW ON VERIFICATION
IS COMPLETED, (PER STATE 137120, PARA 7) WE THINK IT WOULD BE
DESIRABLE TO TABLE U.S. PREFERENCES ON FOCUS OF FURTHER ALLIED
WORK ON AERIAL INSPECTION IN ORDER TO PREVENT WG FROM WASTING
TIME ON NON-RELEVANT ALTERNATIVES.PRENDERGAST

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